14. In the matter of recruitment, orders were issued by the Central Government for relaxation in upper age limit upto a maximum of six years in the case of candidates, who had ordinarily resided in the State of Assam during the period 1.1.1980 to 15.8.1985.

15 NSA detenues in connection with the agitation were released.

Natural Calamities

189 DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether any permanent machinery exists to deal with the natural calamities expeditiously,

(b) if so, the details of the same and the funds earmarked for it, and

(c) whether the above machinery plunged into action to provide relief to the areas affected recently by heavy rains and cyclones?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) (a) and (b) Yes Sir The country has a permanent administrative machinery at the Centre, State and District levels for dealing effectively and expeditiously with natural calamities At the State level the Revenue and Relief Departments are responsible for coordinating response to natural calamities At the Central level the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation in the Ministry of Agriculture is the nodal Department for coordinating relief measures The State/Union territory administration have the responsibility for relief repairs and restoration in the event of natural calamities In accordance with the scheme recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission and accepted by the Government of India an amount of Rs 6304 27 crores has been provided in the Calamity Relief Fund of the States in the five year period 1995-96 to 1999-2000 for dealing with natural calamities Seventy five percent of the fund is contributed by the Central Government In addition for providing additional assistance in the event of calamity of rare severity the Central Government has the National Fund for Calamity Relief with a corpus of Rs 700 crores for the five year period 1995-96 to 1999-2000

(c) Yes Sir

Behaviour of Advocates

190 SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the news-item captioned Vakil Hirasat Main published in Dainik Jagran dated June 4 1996

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken in this regard;

(c) whether similar incident happened in Tis Hazari Court Room No. 322 on May 23, 1996

(d) the action taken against the advocates, if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the course of the hearing of Civil Writ Petition 2306/96 on 3 6 1996, the High Court held that the rude behaviour and utterances made by one advocate before the Court constituted contempt in the face of the Court The Court detained the advocate in custody and called upon him to show cause as to why he should not be punished for Contempt of Court The advocate was given four weeks time to file reply to the show cause It was further directed by the Court that he be released from custody on his furnishing a personal bond in the sum of Rs 5,000/- to secure his attendance in the Court Later the advocate/contemnor furnished the requisite bond and the same was accepted by the Court on the same day

(c) to (e) According to the information available, no such incident is reported to have taken place at Tis Hazari Court Room No 322 on 23 5 1996 However, a case of the use vituperative and filthy language against the defendant by the counsel for the plaintiff in the Court of the Civil Judge has come to notice No action was proposed in the matter by the Ld Civil Judge but he placed the case before the District and Sessions Judge, Delhi for transfer to another Court and the case was transferred

Rural Electrification

191 SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the average rural electrification in U P as compared to the National level, and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to bring the average at par with national level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR S VENUGOPALACHARI) (a) As against all India average of 86 49% the level of village electrification in Uttar Pradesh by the end of April, 1996 was 76 62%

(b) Government of Uttar Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board are being pursuaded

through the Rural Electrification Corporation to accord higher priority to the electrification of new areas.

Strategy to Counter Fly Ash

192 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Department of Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council has discovered the means to counter the threat posed by the over 60 million tonnes of fly ash produced annually by the country's 75 odd thermal power plants burning coal to serve business opportunities,

(b) if so, the means to counter fly ash threat by the technology mission;

(c) the measures proposed to enforce them in the several sectors of social and economic importance; and

(d) the time by which this strategy is likely to be put to use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR S VENUGOPALACHARI) (a) to (c) Ministry of Science and Technology and Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) are implementing a project Technology Project in Mission Mode (TPMM) "Selected Technology Projects for Fly Ash Disposal and Utilisation" for gainful utilisation of fly ash in the identified thrust areas of social and economic importance namely Fly Ash Characterisation, Hudraulic Structures Handling and Transportation, Agriculture related Studies and Applications, Ash Ponds and Dams, Reclamation of Ash Ponds for Human Settlement Road and Embankments, Underground Mine Fills and Research Projects

(d) The above project was approved during 1994 and shall be completed in four years

LPG Agencies

193 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the criteria fixed for the allotment of petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG agencies

(b) the number of applications received by the Government for the allotment of petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG agencies during the last three years, state-wise,

(c) the detail or the persons who have been allotted the petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG agencies during the above period,

(d) the number of applications out of these rejected during the above period, and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T R BAALU) : (a) to (e). A large number of applications are received regularly for allotment of dealerships/ distributorships on compassionate grounds under discretionary powers of the Government The Hon Supreme Court of India through its order dated 31 3 1995 has approved the following guidelines for allotment of dealerships/distributorships under discretionary quota on compassionate grounds

(i) Dependent of a person who has made supreme sacrifice for the nation, but has not been properly rehabilitated so far

(ii) Member of a family which has been a victim of unforeseen circumstances like terrorist attack, earthquake, floods, etc

(iii) Physically handicapped person

(iv) Defence/para-military/police personnel/ other Central/State Government employees, who are permanently disabled on duty

(v) Immediate next of kin, namely widow parents, children of those who lost their lives in abnormal circumstances

(vi) Individual case of extreme hardship, which in the opinion of Government are extremely compassionate and deserve sympathetic consideration in view of the special circumstances of the case at the given time

(vii) Eminent professionals like outstanding sportsmen, musicians, literateurs, etc and women of high achievement, in distress

(viii) The number of discretionary allotments should not ordinarily exceed 10% of the average annual marketing plan, of which allotments of retail outlets for petroleum products should not normally exceed 5%

The discretionary allotments will be made to a candidate subject to the following general conditions

(1) He/She should be a citizen of India

(2) He/She or any of his/her following close relatives (including step relatives) should not already hold a dealership of petroleum products of any oil company

(i) Spouse (ii) Father Mother (iii) Brother (iv) Son Daughter in law

During the last three years 170 retail outlets and 136 LPG distributorships were allotted under discretionary powers of the Government